

## HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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Wednesday, May 4, 2005

10:30 a.m.

307 House Office Building

Representative Brian Palmer, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Representatives Palmer, Mortimer, Gosselin, Meyer, Hoogendyk, Vander Veen, Wenke, Ball, Elsenheimer, Hildenbrand, Pearce, Proos, Hopgood, Miller, Angerer, Lemmons, III, Virgil Smith, Kehrl and Clack.

Representative Gosselin moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2005 meeting.

Representative Wenke supported the motion.

There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid SB 72 and SB 77 before the committee.

**SB 72      Birkholz**      Education; students; pledge of allegiance; require to be offered in public schools.

**SB 77      Van Woerkom**      Education; curricula; certain ROTC classes; consider as pupil instruction time.

Jeff Cobb, representing Senator Van Woerkom's office, testified in support of SB 77.\*

Tom Cameron and Russ Bachman, representing the White Cloud Public Schools, testified in support of SB 77.

Don Olendorf, representing the Michigan Small and Rural Schools, submitted a card in support of SB 77, but did not wish to speak.

Representative Vander Veen moved to report SB 77 with recommendation.

Representative Proos supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 19-0-0.

### **FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

Yeas: Representatives Palmer, Mortimer, Gosselin, Meyer, Hoogendyk, Vander Veen, Wenke, Ball, Elsenheimer, Hildenbrand, Pearce, Proos, Hopgood, Miller, Angerer, Lemmons, III, Virgil Smith, Kehrl and Clack,

Nays: None,  
Pass: None.

**SB 77 reported out with recommendation.**

Senator Birkholz testified in support of SB 72. Questions and discussion followed.

The Chair postponed SB 72 temporarily.

The committee received a presentation by the Michigan Department of Education. Dr. Ed Roeber discussed revising the MEAP scores in Michigan.

The committee returned to the consideration of SB 72.

Don Olendorf, representing the Michigan Small and Rural Schools, submitted a card in support of SB 72, but did not wish to speak.

Joyce Phelps, representing the Michigan Education Association, submitted a card in support of SB 72, but did not wish to speak.

Dennis Fitzsimons, representing himself, testified in opposition to SB 72.\*

Representative Lemmons, III, moved to adopt the following amendment to SB 72:

1. Amend page 1, line 3, after "**THAT**" by striking out the balance of the subsection and inserting "**1 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING IS OFFERED EACH SCHOOL DAY TO PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IT OPERATES:**

**(A) THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES.**

**(B) THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF MICHIGAN.**

**(C) THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.**

**(D) THE BILL OF RIGHTS.**

**(E) THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS.**

**(F) MARTIN LUTHER KING'S "I HAVE A DREAM" SPEECH.**

**(G) ANY OF THE FEDERALIST PAPERS.**

**(H) THE FREDERICK DOUGLAS "FOURTH OF JULY" SPEECH.**

**(I) THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE."**

Representative Virgil Smith supported the motion.

The motion did not prevail by a vote of 4-14-1.

**UNFAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

Yeas: Representatives Hopgood, Miller, Lemmons, III, and Virgil Smith,

Nays: Representatives Palmer, Mortimer, Gosselin, Meyer, Hoogendyk, Vander Veen, Wenke, Ball, Elsenheimer, Hildenbrand, Pearce, Proos, Kehrl and Clack,

Pass: Representative Angerer.

Representative Clack offered the following amendment to SB 72:

1. Amend page 1, line 6, after “operations” by inserting “**AND THAT A COPY OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IS PROVIDED**”.

The committee discussed Representative Clack’s amendment to SB 72.

The committee did not take further action on SB 72.

With no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting, the time being 12:05 p.m.

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Representative Brian Palmer, Chair

Ben Cook  
Committee Clerk  
May 5, 2005  
1 hour 35 minutes

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Date Approved and Signed

\* indicates printed materials attached to original minutes.